Review of Safety Measures in Nuclear installations

33. DR. MANMOHAN SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have conducted any recent review of the safety measures in our nuclear installations;

(b) if so, what are the findings thereof; and

(c) whether Government would consider giving autonomous status to the Nuclear Regulatory Authority?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY (SHRIMATI VASUNDHRA RAJE): (a) to (c) The safety measures in Indian nuclear installations are subject to a continuous review process. The Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB) has evolved a three-tier structure of Safety Review Committees to monitor compliance with the safety standards and other AERB directives. At the plant level, the Station Operations Review Committee looks after the day to day issues involving safety and performance of the plant. At the corporate level, there are Unit Safety Committees consisting of experts in their respective fields which review all safety issues emerging out of unusual occurence reports, periodic performance reports and' periodic safety reviews carried out at the instance of AERB.

Further review is carried out by the Safety Review Committee for Operating Plants (SARCOP) of the AERB. Violation of safety stipulations, if any, as well as all issues related to safety are reviewed and restrictions to the extent of suspending the operation of the plant can be imposed.

Besides this, the AERB, through its Directorate of Inspection & Enforcement carries out periodic inspection of the plants to ensure adherence to safe practices.

In addition to these normal/routine measures in existence, the AERB in 1995-1996 carried out a detailed safety review of all plants -for- enforcement of safety and brought out issues related to

upgradation of safety in these plants. Action Plans with schedules have been formulated to resolve these issues and AERB is closely monitoring their compliance.

The Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB) already enjoys functional independence.

Capacity of Nuclear Power Plants

34. DR. MANMOHAN SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the increase in the capacity of nuclear power plants in the 1990s;

(b) the extent of the capacity utilisation thereof;

(c) the financial performance of nuclear and power plants; and

(d) the future plans for the expansion of nuclear power capacity?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY (SHRIMATI VASUNDHRA RAJE): (a) The capacity additions through the nuclear power plants during 1990s are as follows:

Plant	Capacity (MWe)	Date of Commercial Operation
NAPS-1	220	1.1.1991
NAPS-2	220	1.7.1992
KAPS-1	220	6.5.1993
KAPS-2	220	1.9.1993